

PATENT/Docket No. PC10299A
Appl. No. 09/489,711
Filing Date: January 24, 2000

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-16 (Cancelled)

17. (Currently amended) A vaccine composition comprising:

- (1) an antigen composition; and,
- (2) an adjuvant composition,

wherein the antigen composition comprises a fluid fraction of an *E. rhusiopathiae* culture and a stabilizing agent, wherein said *E. rhusiopathiae* culture is inactivated with beta-propiolactone and said fluid fraction is substantially free of cells of *E. rhusiopathiae*; wherein the stabilizing agent is a metal hydroxide, a metal phosphate, an aluminum hydroxide gel, a calcium phosphate gel, a zinc hydroxide/calcium hydroxide gel or an alum, and wherein the adjuvant composition comprises about 2% v/v lecithin, about 18% v/v mineral oil, and a combined volume of about 8% v/v of Tween 80 and Span 80 surfactants~~an amphiphilic surfactant~~ with the remaining volume being a saline solution, wherein said vaccine composition protects an animal against *E. rhusiopathiae* infection.

18-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously presented) The vaccine composition of Claim 17, wherein said stabilizing agent is aluminum hydroxide gel.

27. (Currently amended) The vaccine composition of Claim ~~[[26]]~~41, wherein said stabilizing agent, aluminum hydroxide gel, is added to the concentrated composition to a final concentration of 30% v/v.

28-29. (Cancelled)

30. (Currently amended) A vaccine composition comprising:

- (1) an antigen composition; and,
- (2) an adjuvant composition,

wherein the antigen composition comprises a fluid fraction of an *E. rhusiopathiae* culture and a stabilizing agent, wherein the stabilizing agent is aluminum hydroxide gel and is present at about 30% v/v in said vaccine composition; wherein the *E. rhusiopathiae* culture is inactivated with beta-propiolactone and ~~the culture said fluid fraction~~ is substantially free of cells

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of *E. rhusiopathiae*; ~~and, and~~ wherein the adjuvant composition comprises about 2% v/v lecithin, about 18% v/v mineral oil, and a combined volume of about 8% v/v of Tween 80 and Span 80 surfactants ~~an amphiphilic surfactant~~ with the remaining volume being a saline solution, wherein said vaccine composition protects an animal against *E. rhusiopathiae* infection.

31. (Currently amended) The vaccine composition of Claim 17 or 30, wherein said composition is stable at 2°C to 8°C for at least one year and ~~provides immunity to~~ protects weaned pigs against *E. rhusiopathiae* infection for six months.

32. (Previously presented) The vaccine composition of Claim 17 or 30, wherein said *E. rhusiopathiae* culture is inactivated with formalin.

33-39. (Cancelled)

40. (New) The antigen composition of Claim 17, wherein the fluid fraction is concentrated 6 to 20 fold, resulting in a concentrated antigen composition.

41. (New) The vaccine composition of Claim 40, wherein said stabilizing agent is aluminum hydroxide gel.

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